

15 MAR 1950

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GENERAL

1. Western warning to Czechoslovakia urged--US Ambassador Briggs in Prague reports that the British Ambassador there has urged upon the UK Government the desirability of taking some "prophylactic action" before the Czechoslovaks make further attacks on Western missions in Prague. The British Ambassador suggests a joint US, British, and French warning to the Czechoslovak Foreign Minister that further "spy trials" will have "unforeseen consequences" for relations between Czechoslovakia and the Western countries. The British Ambassador argues that even though this approach might not stop Czechoslovakia entirely, some effect might be produced and taking such action is preferable to waiting for impending attacks like "sitting ducks." Ambassador Briggs recommends that the US take some such action, either jointly or alone, basing his recommendation on the view that Czechoslovakia appears anxious to avoid a complete break with the US. Briggs also recommends that US vulnerability to such attacks be lessened through a reduction of the Embassy's service attaches.



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State Dept. review completed



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